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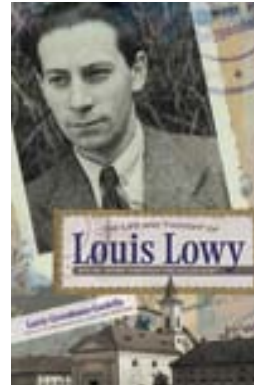
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Saint Joseph College Professor Writes New Biography of Renowned Social Worker and Holocaust Survivor



Photo: Peter Gardella



WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella, J.D., M.S.W., A.C.S.W., associate dean and professor of Social Work in the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Saint Joseph College, has written a new book titled *The Life and Thought of Louis Lowy: Social Work Through the Holocaust* (Syracuse University Press, Oct. 2011). The book captures the experiences and social work philosophy of Holocaust survivor and renowned social work educator Professor Louis Lowy.

According to Professor Gardella, “Louis Lowy’s wife Ditta and several of his faculty colleagues from Boston University School of Social Work invited me to write his biography based on an unfinished oral narrative. It was a great honor to present Professor Lowy’s story and to complete the project that he had begun.”

An international social worker and gerontologist who was professor *emeritus* at Boston University School of Social Work, Professor Louis Lowy (1920 - 1991), rarely spoke publicly about the Holocaust. During the last months of his life, however, he recorded an oral narrative that explored his activities during the Holocaust as the formative experiences of his career. Whether caring for youth in concentration camps, leading an escape from a death march, or forming the self-government of a Jewish displaced persons center, Louis Lowy was guided by principles that would later inform his professional identity as a social worker, including the values of human worth and self-determination, the interdependence of generations, and the need for social participation and lifelong learning.

Drawing on Professor Lowy's oral narrative and accounts from three other Holocaust survivors who witnessed his work in the Terezín ghetto and the Deggendorf Displaced Persons Center, Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella offers a rich portrait of Professor Lowy's personal and professional legacy. In chronicling his life, Professor Gardella also uncovers a larger story about Jewish history and the meaning of the Holocaust in the development of the social work profession.

A resident of Hamden, Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella earned her J.D. and M.S.W. from the University of Connecticut and an A.B. from Smith College. She is coauthor, with Karen S. Haynes, of *A Dream and a Plan: A Woman's Path to Leadership in Human Services*.

Professor Gardella will participate in the Celebration of Recently Published Books, part of the Eleventh Annual International Education Week at SJC, which features Saint Joseph College faculty and is sponsored by the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. **The event is open to the community and includes book signings; join us on Thursday, November 17 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. in The Bruyette Athenaeum's Second Floor Reception Room located on Saint Joseph College's West Hartford campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue.**

The book is available from Amazon.com: <http://www.amazon.com/Life-Thought-Louis-Lowy-Holocaust/dp/0815609655> or directly from the publisher, Syracuse University Press: <http://syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/fall-2011/life-thought.html>.

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Saint Joseph College, founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy to provide higher education opportunities for women, is a comprehensive institution serving women from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. More than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs are available plus accelerated bachelor's to master's degrees. Responsive to the evolving educational needs of the community, the School of Graduate and Professional Studies offers both women and men graduate degree programs including: management, counseling, education, and nursing along with online programs in biology, biochemistry and nutrition. In addition, the undergraduate Weekend Program for Adult Learners, professional certificate programs relevant to today's workforce and other continuing co-educational learning opportunities are available. In the fall of 2011, the Saint Joseph College School of Pharmacy, the first doctoral program in the College's 79-year history, welcomed its first class to Hartford 21 on Trumbull Street in downtown Hartford. View our Web site at www.sjc.edu.

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